Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief Lowell M. Porter

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WSP to Participate In National Holiday Safety Campaign

Chief Lowell M. Porter announced today the Washington State Patrol (WSP) will be joining other state law enforcement agencies across the nation in a Fourth of July weekend safety campaign entitled Operation C.A.R.E. (Combined Accident Reduction Effort). The goal of Operation C.A.R.E. is to reduce human suffering on our highways and interstates—particularly during the busy holiday weekends. These efforts will begin on July 2, 2004, and conclude at midnight on Monday, July 5, 2004.

The WSP is committed to protecting our families, friends, and children by reducing the number of deaths and injuries on our highways and interstates through the pro-active enforcement of collision-causing violations. Troopers will be working toward this goal by focusing their enforcement efforts on the four core mission areas of WSP: individuals who drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (DUI), exhibit aggressive driving habits, speed, or fail to utilize seat belts and child safety restraints.

"By increasing our enforcement and education efforts on the long Fourth of July weekend, focusing on these areas, we hope to reduce the number of injuries on our highways and interstates," Chief Porter explained.

Troopers will be using marked and unmarked patrol vehicles, motorcycles, and aircraft during this time. Commercial vehicle safety compliance will also be included as the WSP continues its ongoing effort to make Washington's highways as safe as possible.

To contact a public information officer in your area about the WSP's participation in Operation C.A.R.E., please visit our Web site at www.wsp.wa.gov/newsfaqs/pio.htm for contact information.